

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9797
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG PRIORITY
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, CY, TU
SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF EUROPE REPORT ON TURKISH VIOLATIONS
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CYPRUS

REFERENCE: LONDON 847

1. SUNDAY TIMES IN ISSUE OF JANUARY 23 ANNOUNCED ON
FRONT PAGE THAT IT HAD ACQUIRED COPY OF "SECRET"
COUNCIL OF EUROPE REPORT ON ALLEGED TURKISH ATROCITIES IN
CYPRUS. ACCORDING TO SUNDAY TIMES, REPORT BY EUROPEAN
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS FINDS TURKEY GUILTY OF VIO-
LATING SEVEN ARTICLES OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON
HUMAN RIGHTS. SUNDAY TIMES ON INSIDE PAGE PUBLISHES
LENGTHY SYNOPSIS "BASED ON THE SECRET REPORT."

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2. THIS SYNOPSIS PURPORTS TO GIVE SPECIFICS OF GREEK
CYPRIOT CHARGES, EVIDENCE GIVEN TO THE COMMISSION, AND
VERDICTS BY THE LATTER. SYNOPSIS, WHICH WITHHOLDS NAMES
OF WITNESSES AND GIVES FEW DIRECT QUOTES, SETS FORTH
"COMMISSION'S VERDICT" FOR FOUR MAJOR CATEGORIES AS
FOLLOWS:

3. A) KILLING: "BY 14 VOTES TO ONE, THE COMMISSION CONSIDERED THERE WERE 'VERY STRONG INDICATIONS' OF VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE 2 AND KILLINGS 'COMMITTED ON A SUBSTANTIAL SCALE'".

B) RAPE: (THE SYNOPSIS CITES EXTENSIVE EVIDENCE GIVEN BEFORE THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING 70 CASES CONFIRMED BY ONE DOCTOR). "BY 12 VOTES TO ONE THE COMMISSION FOUND 'THAT THE INCIDENTS OF RAPE DESCRIBED IN THE CASES REFERRED TO AND REGARDED AS ESTABLISHED CONSTITUTE INHUMAN TREATMENT AND THUS VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE 3 FOR WHICH TURKEY IS RESPONSIBLE UNDER THE CONVENTION'".

C) TORTURE: (AFTER FURTHER LENGTHY CITATIONS OF BEATINGS AND MISTREATMENT OF PRISONERS) "BY 12 VOTES TO ONE, THE COMMISSION CONCLUDED THAT PRISONERS WERE IN A NUMBER OF CASES PHYSICALLY ILL-TREATED BY TURKISH SOLDIERS. THESE ACTS OF ILL-TREATMENT CAUSED CONSIDERABLE INJURIES AND IN AT LEAST ONE CASE DEATH. BY THEIR SEVERITY THEY CONSTITUTE 'INHUMAN TREATMENT'".

D) LOOTING: "THE COMMISSION ACCEPTED THAT LOOTING AND ROBBERY ON AN EXTENSIVE SCALE, BY TURKISH TROOPS AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS, HAD TAKEN PLACE. BY 12 VOTES TO ONE, IT ESTABLISHED THAT THERE HAD BEEN DEPRIVATION OF POSSESSIONS OF GREEK CYPRIOTS ON A LARGE SCALE."

4. THE COVERING FRONT-PAGE STORY CARRIED DENUNCIATIONS OF THE REPORT BY DEMIREL AND THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY. COVERING STORY CONCLUDES "A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID IT WAS A 'SCANDAL' UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT THE SUNDAY TIMES HAD OBTAINED A COPY OF THE COMMISSION'S REPORT. HE BLAMED 'THE GREEKS'".

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE ESTIMATED THE SUNDAY TIMES READERSHIP AT 3,854,000. THE PROMINENCE GIVEN TO THE FRONT-PAGE STORY AND SYNOPSIS OF THE REPORT CAN BE EXPECTED TO ATTRACT MORE ATTENTION THAN DID THE GUARDIAN ARTICLE LAST WEEK (REFTEL).

ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
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